



## Answering the Call

*Bill to allow temporary, per diem employment of former 911 operators is approved*

Suffolk County will now have the ability to offer temporary per diem employment to retired 911 operators and police dispatchers during severe weather events and busy summer weekends and holidays because of [a bill](#) that I sponsored. The measure which was recently signed into law should help to reduce short staffing and mandatory overtime in Suffolk’s 911 Call Center.

## Calling on the Feds to Allow Pharmacies to Take Back Unwanted Drugs



**Photo (left to right):** US Senator Charles Schumer, Suffolk County Legislator Kara Hahn and Dr. Jeffrey Reynolds of The Long Island Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (LICADD) call on the Drug Enforcement Agency to allow pharmacies the option of taking back unused or expired medications during a press conference at Moby Drugs in Farmingdale.

I recently joined with Senator Charles Schumer, law enforcement professionals, drug addiction specialists and environmentalist to urge the federal Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) to allow pharmacies to voluntarily take back unused, unwanted or expired drugs. Earlier this year, the New York State Senate and Assembly approved legislation to allow pharmacies the option of taking back, for disposal, controlled substances from consumers. However, current federal enforcement policy by DEA is hindering this law’s implementation.

Over the past decade, Suffolk County, like all of New York State, has seen prescription drug abuse, addictions and overdoses increase at near exponential rates. Allowing neighborhood pharmacies the ability to take-back unused and/or expired medications is essential to combating the epidemic of prescription drug abuse that threatens to destroy so many lives. This is a simple change that will make it convenient for the person who filled the initial prescription to do the responsible thing.

Additionally, by citing more drug take-back receptacles, there is a hope that many pharmaceuticals that now get flushed will be returned, thus reducing the threat to the environment that these chemicals have. This is particularly intriguing as Suffolk County sits above a sole source aquifer that, over time, has seen a dramatic increase in the amount and number of drug substances found in its drinking water supply.

## Emergency Preparedness Presentation Scheduled

PLEASE JOIN

LEGISLATOR KARA HAHN

SUFFOLK COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

FOR A PRESENTATION ON EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

EMERGENCY

INFORMATION

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH AT 7PM

EMMA S. CLARK LIBRARY

BOTTOM FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

Suffolk County has been developing exercises in conjunction with our planning partners to address residents' need to prepare for emergencies. In light of the effects of Superstorm Sandy and a warming climate, it is even more pressing to give information to residents regarding the need to BE PREPARED. This presentation has both knowledgeable speakers and important publications to distribute to any residents wishing to learn more.

TOGETHER WE CAN BE SAFE

**Date:** Tuesday, September 24, 2013

**Time:** 7:00PM

**Location:** Emma S. Clark Library

\*\*\*Please call (631)854-1650 to register\*\*\*

I will be hosting an emergency preparedness presentation on Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM in conjunction with the Suffolk County Office for Emergency Preparedness. This event will be held at the Emma Clark Library and is intended to provide residents with information on the reasons to and the ways to prepare for a disaster. As the Atlantic Hurricane season’s activity typically peaks in September, this seminar is particularly timely.

Space is limited, so please contact my office at (631) 854-1650 to register.



# Legislator Hahn in the Community

## Rails to Trails on Track for Mt. Sinai

I celebrated the recent signing of a bill that I co-sponsored to authorize a “no rent” lease agreement with LIPA for a future bike and recreation trail that will run from Mt. Sinai to Wading River. The trail will be built on a Long Island Power Authority right-of-way used by the LIRR until the late 1930s.



## Celebrating Swimmer’s Successes

I honored National Champion in the 200m Butterfly competition and Three Village Swim Club alumnus Thomas Luchsinger of Mt. Sinai during the organization’s year-end picnic held at West Meadow Beach.



## Providing Families with a Sense of Normalcy

I joined Stony Brook University Children’s Hospital in opening its Ronald McDonald Family Room. The room will provide support for families of more than 7,000 children who are hospitalized each year at Stony Brook Children’s, helping to alleviate their anxiety of having a child in the hospital by keeping them close to their child’s bedside. Photo courtesy of Stony Brook Children’s Hospital.



## Troop #377’s Newest Eagle

Zachary G. Randall of Boy Scout Troop #377 was honored on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. For his community service project, Zachary constructed a Literacy Center, complete with a selection of donated books, inside of the pediatric area of the Elsie Owens Health Center in Coram.



## Capturing Long Island’s Beauty in Wet Paint

Local arts were invited to share their visions of the Old Field Farm and West Meadow Beach on canvas during Gallery North’s 9th Annual Joseph Reboli Wet Paint Festival. I joined other festival volunteers in helping the artists locate that perfect view.



## Mario Montoya Earns Eagle Rank

I am pleased to have been able to honor Mario Daniel Montoya of Boy Scout Troop 427 on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. For his community service project, Mario cataloged, organized and then constructed shelving to house art books that have been donated to Gallery North in Setauket for the community’s use.



## Honoring Park Visionary

Port Jefferson’s Harborfront Park has been dedicated in honor of former Village Trustee, Mayor and park visionary Jeanne Garant. The park officially opened in 2005.





# Upcoming Community Event



On Monday, September 23rd, The Taste of Three Village will be held at the Holiday Inn Express of Stony Brook. Proceeds from the event will fund a scholarship program at Stony Brook University's School of Journalism in memory of Lee Lutz, a former Village Time Herald reporter and editor.

For more information please call (631) 471-8000 or visit: [www.tasteofthreevillage.com](http://www.tasteofthreevillage.com).

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